

Species IV - Figure 4.

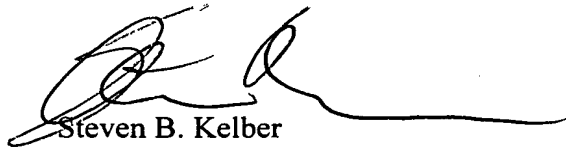
Applicants elect, with traverse, Species I of Figure 1, for initial examination purposes only.

Applicants respectfully traverse the election of species requirement on the grounds that the Office has failed to show that Species I-IV are patentably distinct. The Office has merely concluded that Figures 1-4 show patentably distinct species of the claimed device without providing any reasons or evidence to support this conclusion. The Office has failed to show that Species I-IV are patentably distinct.

Applicants note that the species election is for initial examination purposes only. Should no prior art be located which anticipates or renders obvious the elected species, the search of the elected invention must be extended. MPEP §803.

Applicants submit that the present application is ready for examination on the merits. Early notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Steven B. Kelber
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 30,073

Crystal Square Five
Fourth Floor
1755 Jefferson Davis Highway
Arlington, VA 22202
TEL: (703) 413-3000
FAX: (703) 413-2220
SBK/JK/sjh

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